

The Kids: Dead Ringers For Their Moms and Dads

For some years conscientious parents have been concerned over the effect of television on their impressionable children.

The National Association for Better Radio and Television, an organization devoted to evaluating television programs for family listening reports:

"In its best moments, television is the strength, intelligence and compassion of millions united simultaneously in emotional experiences while viewing great entertainment or great events. At its worst, television is a hawk of deceptively advertised merchandise, the exploiter of the innocence of 30 million American children and a purveyor of the brutish elements of sex and the sadistic elements of violence."

TV's alleged adverse effects on youth, however, are discounted by some knowledgeable observers. A prominent psychiatrist, Dr. Lawrence Z. Freedman, recently pointed out:

"When the automobile removed youngsters from the surveillance of their homes,

we were concerned for their morals. Now television immobilizes them in the living room and we deplore their passivity."

UNESCO has just issued a report, "The Effects of Television on Children and Adolescents," which finds that the average child of elementary and high school age devotes as much time to watching television as he spends in school. According to UNESCO:

"Most students of television effects on children are unwilling to say that identification or incidental learning from television

plays any large part in causing delinquency or crime . . . at most, television can be merely a contributory cause, and is likely to affect only the child who is already maladjusted and delinquency prone."

These days, however, it isn't just a case of parents worrying about their children. Some children are concerned about their parents, and are taking to television to say so.

San Francisco's educational station, KQED, has a new program devoted to

teenage seminars on foreign affairs, existentialism, parents and other problems. A typical exchange on a recent program went as follows:

"Can we form our own culture without our parents?"

"You've got to acknowledge them."

"What did our parents have to worry about? They were not caught up in the world like we are with Viet Nam."

Well, there was the Korean War, World War II,

World War I, the Spanish American War, the Civil War, the War of 1812, and even the continuing War Between men and women. But no matter. As the eminent churchman, Dr. Eugene Carson Blake, recently declared at a California conference on youth:

"The horrible result that our children will likely come to if they merely drift will be that they'll be dead ringers for their parents 25 years from now."

Nothing could be worse than that — with or without television.

Hudson Enters Riverside Race

Veteran race driver Skip Hudson who lives within the shadows of Riverside International Raceway—in nearby Arlington—will play the role of local favorite today when the U.S. Road Racing Championship race gets underway over Riverside's 2.6-mile road course.

The popular blonde pilot who grew up with Southern California sports car racing

brings the total entries to more than 40. At least 20 additional entries are expected by the time the course opens for practice at 10 a.m. Friday.

DISEASES NOTED

Notifiable diseases reported from the Torrance area for the week ending April 17 were two cases of gonorrhea and one case each of measles, meningococcal infection, and mumps.

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Write in confidence to Henry Becker, 19200 S. Western Ave., Torrance, Calif.

Four Members Of EC Faculty Attend Meeting

Four El Camino College faculty members participated in the spring meeting of the California Junior College Association meeting at Santa Barbara City College.

Representing the college were Dr. Jack Martin, business instructor and executive secretary of the junior college association; W. A. Kamrath, coordinator of public relations; Grace Edwards, drafting instructor, and Carl Meadows, assistant director of instruction.

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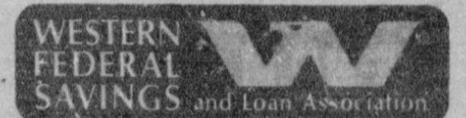


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